

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I am speaking to you today from Kaurna country, and here in the dining room of the Hutt Street Centre in Adelaide which is celebrating its 70 year this year.

At Easter this year, it seems that so many people are experiencing some form of being disconnected. Whether it is the cost of living making life impossible; or the affordability of a simple home; or the general sense that the world seems, at times to be out of control, and just doesn't make sense. It is an anxiety that surrounds us.

Pope Francis has often reminded us that for us humans there is a link between learning and doing, between studying and working, between the 'head' and the 'hands'.

What is missing, he says, is the third element: **the heart**. He said the head, the heart and hands are needed in order to be coherent.

The head, the hands and the heart, the Pope reminds us, "must always interact in life, as they are connected in the person, in the journey of life". "The head, heart and hands: a circle that must always be kept open and dynamic," he said.

If we just use our heads we argue; if we just use our hands we fight.; but if we use our heads, our hands and our heart together, great things can happen.

Each day at this table, at which I am sitting, people are fed. It shows in an ordinary and yet profound way, the best of what can happen when we join our heads, our hands and our hearts together. Here dignity is regained; hope is rekindled, light shines.

At Easter our ceremonies begin at another table, the table around which Jesus sits his disciples for the Last Supper. Here he gives us the gift of the Eucharist and the priesthood; here he teaches us about the primacy of service in washing the feet of the disciples.

On Good Friday we see Jesus entrust his life to the Father in giving his life for us.

And just when all seems lost, when the darkness seems to be the deepest, when hope seems furthest away, when hand, heart and head, everything seems disconnected, the faithful God, the God of life raised Jesus from the dead. Everything is connected again.

While we acknowledge that at times life can feel disconnected, Easter is the great reconnector. At Easter Jesus becomes our true light. At Easter we learn, in a darkened world, to reflect God's light to our world.

At Easter we celebrate the Jesus our true light, who does not leave us in the place of disconnectedness but leads us back to life. It is about the fact that we walk the journey of life and formation, not alone, but accompanied by others. The power of faith is that it transforms.

Might I ask you this Easter to pray for all those throughout the Archdiocese who will be baptised and Easter.

At Easter this year may you and your families experience this reconnection that Jesus, Risen from the dead, brings to us all.

A blessed Easter to you all.

God is Good, Good indeed.